

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

11-1. Increase the proportion of households with access to the Internet at home.

National Data Source	Current Population Survey (CPS), U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census; National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES), National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education.
State Data Source	Not identified.
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	Revised data source (see Comments).
Measure	Percent.
Baseline (Year)	26 (1998)
Target	80
Target-Setting Method	Better than the best racial/ethnic subgroup. For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
Numerator	Number of U.S. households with connections to the Internet.
Denominator	Number of U.S. households.
Population Targeted	Persons aged 18 years and older.
Questions Used to Obtain the National Baseline Data.	From the 1998 Current Population Survey: ➤ <i>Is there a personal computer or laptop in this household?</i> ➤ <i>Is there a WebTV in this household?</i> [If “yes” to one of the above questions:] <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Does anyone in this household use the Internet from home?</i>

[If “yes” to both of the above questions:]

- *Earlier you said that you have both a computer and WebTV. Does anyone in this household use either one to connect to the Internet?*

Expected Periodicity

Periodic.

Comments

A household was considered to have a connection to the Internet if the household responded “yes” to either of the last two questions above.

This objective was originally tracked by the Current Population Survey (CPS) administered by the Bureau of the Census. The 1998 baseline data were collected as part of the Computer and Internet Use Supplement to CPS; this supplement contained questions about the household in general and about those individual household members who use the Internet. The respondent was at least 15 years old, was knowledgeable about the Internet or computers, and gave proxy respondents for other members of the household.

Beginning in 2004, the questions used to obtain the data were dropped from the CPS. Subsequently, a new data source, the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES) was identified. The NHES tracks the percent of adults aged 18 years and older who use the Internet at home. This differs from the old data source, which monitored the percent of households with Internet access.

Beginning in 2001, the numerator is the number of persons who use the Internet at home, and the denominator is the number of person aged 18 years and older.

The following question, from the 2001 National Household Education Survey, is used to obtain data for 2001 and subsequent years:

- *Do you have access to the Internet at home?*

Data from 2001 and 2003 are available from both sources. CPS, 2001= 51%, 2003 = 54.7%, NHES 2001=57.0%, 2003=63.1%.

The original target did not change.

See Appendix A for focus area contact information.

References

1. Klein, R.J.; Proctor, S.E.; Boudreault, M.A.; Turczyn, K.M. Healthy People 2010 Criteria for Data Suppression. *Statistical Notes* No. 24. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2002.